DPS SHARES HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS, Page 2

FRANCE FACES ANTI-NATIONALIST REVOLT, Page 4

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VOL. 73, NO. 42 – $1.00 © Copyright 2026 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026 HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## IN THE STARS

### Crosby Chamber to Host November Luncheon

The Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce invites the community to its November Luncheon, themed "Finish Strong Together," on Thursday, November 19, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Crosby Community Center, located at 409 Hare Rd, Crosby, TX 77532.

The luncheon will feature guest speaker Hope Hartman, CPA PLLC, and will be catered by Teapot Depot. Early bird tickets are available for $25 until November 16th; tickets purchased after that date or at the door will be $30. The event is proudly sponsored by Alliance Properties. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Chamber.

### Community Invited to "Cookies & Pictures with Santa"

Harris County Commissioner Tom S. Ramsey (Precinct 3) invites the community to a free "Cookies & Pictures with Santa" event on Tuesday, December 1, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Held at the San Jacinto Community Center, attendees will enjoy cookies, hot chocolate, and the opportunity to take photos with Santa. The festive gathering is made possible with special thanks to event partners: Peet & Georgianna Bighorse, Highlands/Lynchburg Chamber, Highlands Horizons, Rotary Club of Highlands, Highlands Volunteer Fire Department, and Seniors Helping Seniors High-Town Inc.

The San Jacinto Community Center is located at 604 Highland Woods Dr., Highlands, TX 77562. For more information, please call 713-274-2860.

# Charges upgraded on Dayton ISD bus driver after student dies

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

DAYTON — A 14-year-old Woodrow Wilson Junior High School student has died from injuries he suffered when he was struck by a Dayton ISD school bus whose driver allegedly left the scene.

Brantley Conner died Thursday, Oct. 22, six days after the Oct. 16 collision near the eastbound intersection of U.S. Highway 90 and Stilson Road. He was an eighth-grade student and a member of the school's football team.

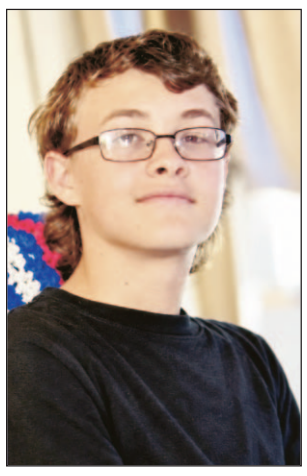
Students returned to school Monday facing the news that their classmate had succumbed to his injuries.

Dayton Police Chief Shane Burleigh said Monday that the charge against bus driver Ricky Eugene Cherry, 70, had been upgraded following Brantley's death.

"The judge just signed the warrant to enhance it from collision causing injury, and it's now collision causing death," Burleigh said. "It's a second-degree felony."

Burleigh said Justice of the Peace Ralph Fuller Wilburn signed the arrest warrant. The chief said Cherry remained in jail the last time he checked.

Police have said the collision occurred between 6:15 and 6:30 a.m. as Brantley was walking near the highway. Cherry was operating a school bus with students aboard when it allegedly struck the teenager, according to investigators. Police accuse Cherry of continuing from the scene without stopping to render aid.


Brantley Conner, 14 year-old Woodrow Wilson Junior High

Brantley was critically injured and flown to Texas Children's Hospital, where he received intensive care. His father, Andrew Conner, initially said the teenager was "fighting for his life" before confirming his death Saturday to ABC-13.

Burleigh declined to discuss what evidence led investigators to conclude that Cherry knew a collision had occurred, saying the investigation remains in its early stages. He said, however, that police had gathered sufficient evidence to pursue the charge.

Cherry was arrested hours after the collision and initially charged with collision causing serious bodily injury. According to KHOU, Cherry appeared in probable-cause court the following morning, but a judge raised an issue with the proceeding. Police then worked with the district attorney's office to obtain another warrant, and Cherry was taken back into custody.

Dayton ISD previously

Continued. See DAYTON ISD BUS DRIVER FACES SECOND, Page 2

## CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

# Crosby ISD Bond Election: Information for Voters

Dear East Harris County Communities and Families,

As our community continues to grow, we want to keep residents informed about decisions that could impact our schools.

The Crosby ISD Board of Trustees has called a bond election for Tuesday, November 3, 2026. The ballot includes two propositions focused on school facilities and district infrastructure. This article is intended to provide information about the proposed projects, estimated tax impact, how bond funds may be used, and details on voting.

**District Facility Projects**

Over the past several years, Crosby ISD has addressed facilities while planning for future student growth.


Dr. Paula Patterson
Crosby Superintendent

In 2025, Crosby ISD opened the Gray House expansion at Crosby High School, creating additional instructional space for students.

The District is also moving forward with construction of a new sixth-grade campus on land it already owned. The campus is expected to open for the 2027-2028 school year.

Land has also been acquired on the north side of Crosby to support the future construction of an elementary school as enrollment growth continues.

The District worked with a Board of Trustees Land and Facilities Committee to identify expansion, renovation, and repair projects that could be completed using available funds.

**Proposed Bond Propositions**

The projects included in the 2026 bond propositions were developed with input from the Long Range Planning Team (LRPT), a committee of more than 70 volunteers representing parents, staff, students, graduates, business leaders, and members of the Crosby-Barrett communities. The proposed bond package is divided into two separate propositions, allowing voters to consider each one individually.

**Proposition A: $98,280,000**

**New Elementary School:** Proposition A would provide funding for a new elementary school as well as improvements to facilities across the district. Proposed projects include updates to HVAC systems, roofing, safety and security measures, and technology infrastructure.

**Proposition B: $110,000,000**

**New Middle School:** Proposition B would provide funding for a new middle school to replace the current Crosby Middle School building, which is approximately 52 years old. The proposed facility would serve future generations of students while replacing an aging campus.

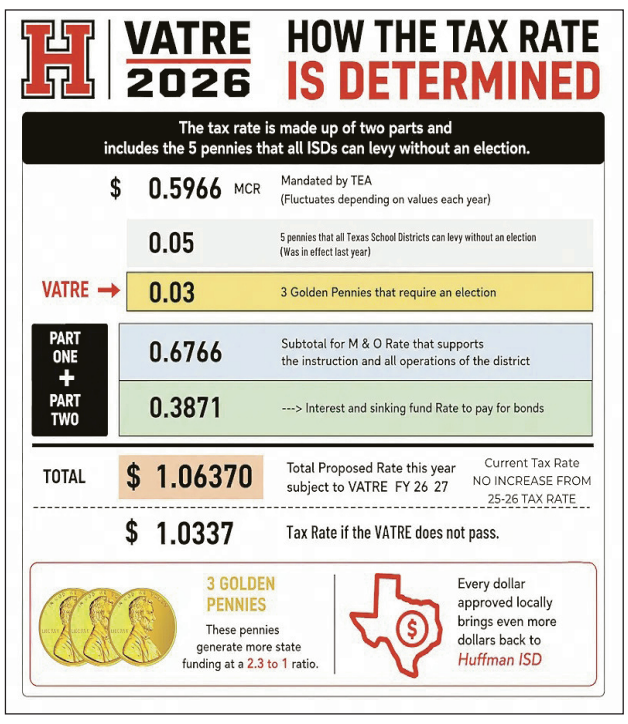
**Estimated Property Tax Impact**

Based on current district estimates, approval of both propositions would increase property taxes by approximately $1.93 per month for a home with a

Continued. See CROSBY ISD BOND ELECTION, Page 6

# Huffman ISD voters to decide three-cent tax rate increase in Nov. 3 VATRE

By David Taylor
Managing Editor




Huffman ISD voters will decide Nov. 3 whether to approve a three-cent increase in the district's maintenance and operations tax rate, a proposal expected to generate about $2 million a year for salaries, student programs, campus security and other recurring expenses.

The measure, known as a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election, or VATRE, would raise the district's total tax rate from $1.0337 to $1.0637 per $100 of taxable property value. Unlike a bond election, the proposal would not authorize construction projects or create new bond debt. Instead, the additional revenue would go into the district's operating budget.

District officials say Huffman ISD is trying to close an original budget deficit of $9.3 million while confronting higher costs for employee compensation, utilities, insurance, transportation, safety and other daily operations. The district says it has reduced spending and identified efficiencies but warns that cuts alone may not balance

Continued. See HUFFMAN ISD VOTERS, Page 2

# Civil District Judge, 270th Judicial District

Judge Dedra Davis is an award-winning judge who hears a wide range of civil matters, including contract disputes, employment cases and personal injury litigation.

Judge Davis was elected to the bench in 2018. She brings 40 years of combined legal experience to the court.

Judge Davis has implemented practices that

improve efficiency, transparency and predictability in the court. She is determined to respect the lawyers' and litigants' time and utilizes structured scheduling that assigns specific hearing times, reducing

extended docket waits for attorneys, litigants and jurors.

She also gives the official court recordings to litigants at no cost, reducing financial barriers associated with obtaining a court record, thus contributing to equal access to justice. Unde Judge Davis' leadership,


Judge Dedra Devis
270th District Court

the court has completed a high volume of civil trials to verdict, including both jury and non-jury trials, thus increasing access to justice.

Judge Davis has an unmatched work ethic that is emphasized by her dedication to the litigants' receiving a fair and just day in court.

Judge Davis's judicial service has been recognized through professional honors, including judicial service and leadership awards from legal and judicial organizations.

Beyond the courtroom, Judge Davis founded Honorary Judge OfThe Day and Lawyer to Litigator. She

Continued. See FAIR, EFFICIENT JUSTICE, Page 2

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# DPS Shares Halloween Safety Tips for Texas Families



AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) urges Texans to take extra precautions this Halloween to help keep themselves and others safe. From choosing safe costumes and staying visible while trick-or-treating to staying alert behind the wheel and watching for pedestrians, a few simple steps can help prevent accidents and ensure Halloween remains a fun and safe tradition.

"Halloween should be a night of fun and celebration, not a night of tragedy," said Texas Highway Patrol Chief Bryan Rippee. "We're asking everyone to do their part—drivers should stay focused, slow down and watch carefully for children and pedestrians, while those who are drinking should plan for a sober ride home. Taking a few extra seconds to make the safe choice can help make sure everyone gets home safely."

DPS encourages Texans to:

**Safely store your firearms** locked in a cabinet or safe. Practicing safe gun storage protects our kids, prevents accidents and keeps guns out of the hands of criminals. **If you're having Halloween gatherings in your home – act now!** Download a safe storage checklist and find the right storage option for your home with help from DPS' Safe Storage Campaign. Visit safegunstoragetexas.com to find options.

**Know the dangers of fentanyl**. Victims of fentanyl poisoning often don't know that a pill or substance they bought online or received at a party is laced with the deadly drug. Fentanyl can even be disguised as candy. Remember, just ONE PILL laced with 2 milligrams of fentanyl can take someone's life.

**Download the *iWatch-Texas* app** on your mobile device and report suspicious activity in schools and communities. Reports take less than five minutes and help law enforcement stop life-threatening attacks before they happen. Tips can be reported via the website, the free iWatch iOS or Android mobile app or by calling 844-643-2251. **All reports are confidential**.

Halloween safety tips for trick-or-treating:

Ensure costumes are **bright and reflective** by adding reflective tape to darker costumes to help drivers see trick-or-treaters at night.

Use face paint instead of masks that could obstruct vision.

Walk on sidewalks and utilize crosswalks.

**Carry glow sticks**, **flashlights** or **wearable lights** to increase overall visibility.

**Use soft and flexible accessories** such as pirate swords or wands that are not sharp.

Have a prearranged meet up location, in case your group is separated.

**Travel with adult supervision** and stay in familiar neighborhoods.

Discuss the importance of **only visiting well-lit houses** and never entering a stranger's home or car for candy.

Make sure children **know the phone number of an adult** and how to call 911 in case they become lost.

After trick-or-treating, take all goodies home for an adult to inspect before eating, and **never consume any items that don't have a wrapper**.

**Know the neighborhood**, visit the Texas Public Sex Offender Registry, which includes a map of where the registered sex offenders reside in a given area.

Following simple safety tips can go a long way to make Halloween safer for everyone, but everyone must do their part. According to the non-profit Safe Kids Worldwide, children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a vehicle and killed on Halloween than any other night of the year.

Halloween safety tips for drivers:

**Don't drink and drive**. Make alternate plans if you consume alcohol.

**Be aware** as a driver – don't assume children are paying attention to your vehicle.

**Buckle up** everyone in the vehicle — it's the law.

**Slow down**; with the number of children walking the streets on Halloween, reducing your speed is necessary.

**Use caution** when going through neighborhoods and other trick-or-treat locations.

**Eliminate distractions** while driving, including the use of mobile devices. Texas law prohibits the use of portable wireless devices to read, write or send an electronic message unless the vehicle is stopped. If you're using a navigation device or app, have a passenger operate it so you can keep your eyes on the road.

**Drive defensively**, as Halloween can have additional challenges.

# Fair, efficient justice: Judge Davis and the 270TH Judicial District,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

conducts seminars on legal topics such as expunctions and regularly participates in civic outreach.

Judge Davis graduated from Texas Tech University and South Texas College of Law.

As part of her reelection campaign, Judge Davis stated, "I'm determined to continue fair, efficient justice and respectful treatment for everyone who comes before the court."

The love and respect for Judge Dedra Davis have been shown by the nearly 600 contributions, made almost exclusively by Harris County lawyers, in an effort to keep Judge Davis on the bench of the 270th Civil District Court. She delivers justice by making law and order equal justice.

For more information, go to **DedraDavisForJudge.com.**

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 544699; Estate of CECIL RAY SMITHERMAN, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JULY 24, 2026 to:

**MADELIN CAROL HARBER**

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
1500 E. Wallisville Road
Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this OCTOBER 16, 2026

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

# Dayton ISD bus driver faces second-degree felony after student's death,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said it was cooperating fully with police. After Brantley's death, the district acknowledged the loss of one of its students, extended condolences to his family and declined further comment out of respect for the family's privacy.

In an online fundraiser update, Brantley's family described him as a "bright, kind, and deeply loved young boy" and said donations would help with funeral and memorial costs, medical and air-ambulance expenses, living costs and lost wages.

Police have asked anyone with information, dash-camera video or security footage from the area on the morning of the collision to contact the Dayton Police Department or Sgt. James Tidwell at 936-258-7621. The case number is 26-046.

# Crosby has outside shot for playoffs with win Friday

6A Region III DISTRICT 17 STANDINGS

1.C. E. King 5-0 (7-1) GR: Summer Creek, Channelview
2.North Shore 4-1 (7-1) GR: Channelview, Kingwood
3.Summer Creek 4-1 (5-3) GR: C. E. King, Atascocita
4.Atascocita 3-2 (5-3) GR: Crosby, Summer Creek
5.Crosby 2-3 (4-4) GR: Atascocita, Humble
6.Humble 1-4 (2-6) GR: Kingwood, Crosby
7.Kingwood 1-4 (3-5) GR: Humble, North Shore
8.Channelview 0-5 (0-8) GR: North Shore, C. E. King

With only two games remaining in district, the playoff picture is becoming clearer. By virtue of enrollment, **Division 1** likely candidates will include North Shore as the winner and Summer Creek as the runner-up. That was settled earlier by virtue of the Mustangs 28-27 win. According to Dave Campbell's football 6A predictions, the Mustangs would face Deer Park in the first round of the playoffs while Summer Creek draws Dickinson.

In **Division 2**, C. E. King will enter the playoffs as the winner and should face Clear Springs in the first round of the playoffs. The runner-up position could be settled on Friday with the game between Atascocita and Crosby. An upset win by the Cougars would put them in position to claim the runner-up slot and their first playoff advance in the new 6A District of Doom. An Atascocita win would return the Eagles to the playoffs and they would likely draw Barbers Hill in the first round of the playoffs.

Last year, the district title was a three-way tie between North Shore, Summer Creek, and C. E. King. Friday night, the Panthers have an opportunity to win the title with a victory over Summer Creek. A SC win would throw the district title into another three-way tie. Games to watch this week for district and playoff contention: C. E. King vs. Summer Creek, and Atascocita vs. Crosby.

Humble, Kingwood, and Channelview have already been eliminated from playoff contention.

4A Region III DISTRICT 9 STANDINGS

1.Little Cypress-Mauriceville 3-1 (6-2) GR: Bridge City, Lumberton
2.Vidor 3-1 (5-3) GR: Livingston, Liberty
3.Huffman Hargrave 3-2 (4-5) GR: Livingston
4.Bridge City 3-2 (4-5) GR: Little Cypress-Mauriceville
5.Lumberton 1-3 (3-5) GR: Liberty, Little Cypress-Mauriceville
6.Livingston 1-3 (4-4) GR: Vidor, Hargrave
7.Liberty 1-3 (3-5) GR: Lumberton, Vidor

LCM will win district by virtue of their win over Vidor and will take on Houston Austin in the first round of the playoffs. The Pirates as runner-up in district will take on Fort Bend Willowridge. Huffman Hargrave will challenge Houston Sterling while Bridge City and Stafford tangle in the first round of the playoffs.

Dayton should advance to the playoffs and face Montgomery in the first round of the tournament.

Baytown Lee, Baytown Sterling, and Goose Creek Memorial are already eliminated from playoff contention.

# Huffman ISD voters to decide on three-cent tax rate increase in November,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the budget without affecting employees, programs or services.

"There are several factors that have contributed to the deficit," said Layla Karasek, Position 6 member on Huffman ISD board of trustees in a video posted to Facebook.

"One of the things is the district was spending more than it had. Expenditures outweighed the revenue that was coming in. That was something this current district administration and board is working hard to adjust and remediate to ensure we really are being fiscally responsible and setting the district up for long-term financial stability. That is the goal," she said.

If the measure passes, Huffman ISD says the recurring revenue could be used to reduce the deficit, now down to $3.5 million, offer more competitive compensation, recruit and retain teachers and staff, protect instructional programs and student opportunities, and maintain safe campuses.

If it fails, the district would operate at the tax rate allowed without voter approval and would reassess expenditures, staffing, programs and services based on available revenue.

The proposal adds three cents for every $100 of a property's taxable value, not necessarily its market value. That equals an additional $30 a year for each $100,000 in taxable value.

For a qualifying residence homestead, Huffman ISD's online calculator applies a $140,000 homestead exemption. Using that assumption, the approximate VATRE impact would be:

A home appraised at $300,000, with a taxable value of $160,000: **$48 more per year**, or $4 per month.

A home appraised at $400,000, with a taxable value of $260,000: **$78 more per year**, or $6.50 per month.

A home appraised at $500,000, with a taxable value of $360,000: **$108 more per year**, or $9 per month.

Those examples are estimates. Actual bills depend on the appraisal district's taxable value, exemptions, appraisal changes and any applicable tax ceiling. The district has smartly posted an online calculator allowing property owners to enter their own appraised value and compare the pass-and-fail scenarios.

Homeowners who are 65 or older or disabled may qualify for a ceiling on school taxes for their residence homestead. Property improvements and other circumstances can affect that ceiling, so taxpayers should confirm their individual status with the Harris Central Appraisal District.

Huffman ISD voters approved a bond election in 2023, but state law separates bond proceeds from operating revenue.

Bond funds generally pay for long-term capital expenses, including construction, renovations, major facility improvements, technology infrastructure and buses. They cannot be used for regular employee salaries or routine operating costs.

VATRE revenue would be part of the district's maintenance and operations fund. It could therefore pay for teacher and staff compensation, instructional programs, utilities, transportation, insurance, security and other recurring expenses. The VATRE itself would not authorize additional bonds or increase the district's bond debt.

District financial postings list a proposed 2026 maintenance and operations rate of $0.7869 and an interest and sinking rate of $0.4060. The interest and sinking portion is used to repay voter-approved bond debt.

For voters, the central question is whether the district's need for roughly $2 million in additional recurring revenue justifies the higher tax rate. Approval would provide ongoing operating money but increase taxes on property that is not protected by a tax ceiling. Rejection would avoid the three-cent increase but leave the district to address its deficit through its existing revenue, spending and staffing decisions.

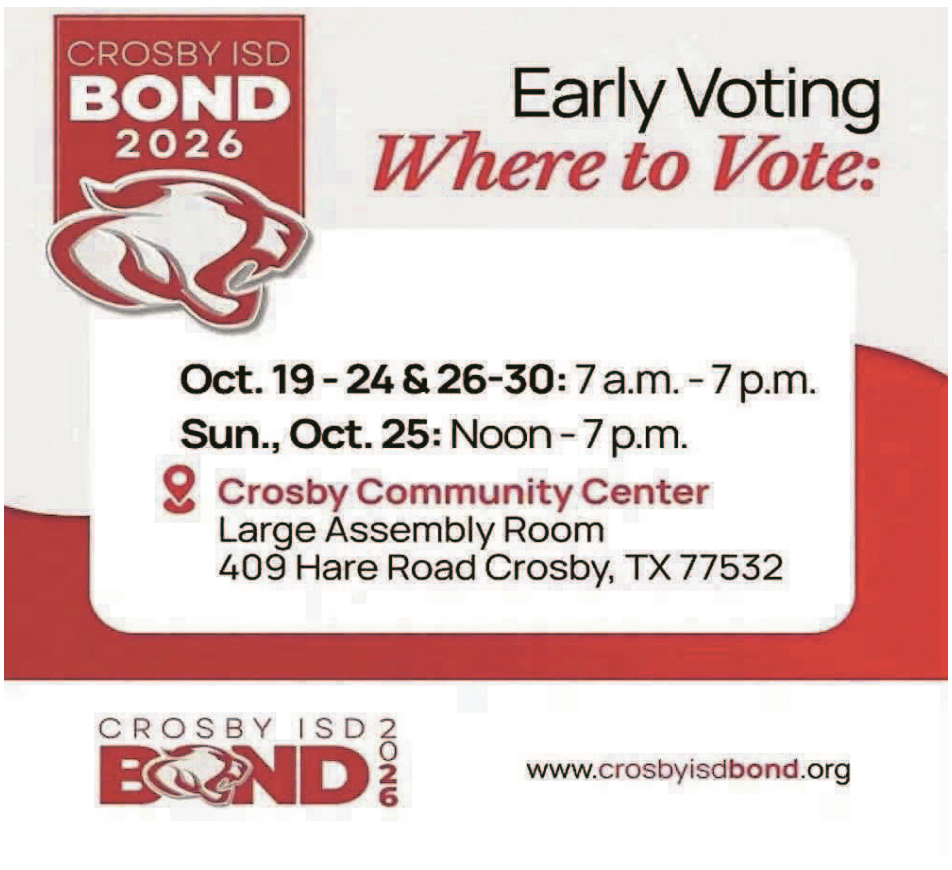
In addition to the VATRE election, three new positions on the board will be filled. Only one of those is contested.

In Position 2, Luke Hight is unopposed as well as Ray Burt in Position 3.

In Position 1, Jared Dagley is stepping down and Lori Freshour and Vernon Reed will contend for his seat on the board.

Early voting runs through Friday, Oct. 30. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each remaining day of early voting.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3, with polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Huffman ISD is contracting with Harris County to conduct the election. Voters can find polling-location information through the district's VATRE and election-information pages.



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# Barbers Hill Dayton Press

Serving Mont Belvieu, Dayton, Baytown and surrounding communities since 1995

VOL. 31, NO. 42 © Copyright 2026 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026 MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

## ON THE HILL

### In Honor of Mr. Jeff Peterson, BHHS C/O 1982



Jeff Peterson was a beloved Eagle and a Barbers Hill 2008 Sports Hall of Honor Inductee. We'd like to join his family in celebrating his life by sharing the tremendous accomplishments of Mr. Peterson during his career as a student athlete:

BHHS pitcher (1980-82)
All-District (1981)
All-State (1982)
Team Captain (1982)
District MVP (1982)
BH Defensive MVP (1982)

In addition, Mr. Peterson finished his career as an Eagle with:

31 starts
Pitched 207 innings
Played 26 complete games
21 wins
309 strike-outs
Pitched 2 no-hitters, 4 one-hitters and 5 shut-outs
1.42 ERA

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the Peterson family. Thank you for the opportunity to honor Mr. Peterson with our Eagle family.

### TRAFFIC UPDATE

Expect alternating lane closures on the I-10 eastbound frontage roads from SH 99 to FM 3180 beginning Wednesday, October 28, through Friday, October 30. At times, entrance and exit ramps may be closed. Contractors will be performing base repairs and pavement overlay work.

Daily closures will be in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Motorists are encouraged to use an alternate route and should expect delays. All construction is subject to change, weather permitting.

### TRAFFIC ALERT- I-10 EASTBOUND EXIT 800 CLOSED

The I-10 eastbound Exit 800 ramp to FM 3180 (Eagle Drive) is temporarily closed while TxDOT performs roadway base repairs and pavement resurfacing.

Drivers traveling eastbound on I-10 who normally take Exit 800 to access Eagle Drive should use the SH 99 exit instead and enter Mont Belvieu via Langston Drive.

The City is coordinating with TxDOT to confirm the anticipated duration and hours of the closure and will share additional updates as information becomes available.

# *Barbers Hill FFA delivers outstanding performances at the Trinity Valley Exposition*



Barbers Hill FFA students have made an impressive showing across multiple livestock, horticulture, agricultural mechanics, and showmanship events at the Trinity Valley Exposition (TVE). Competing against top exhibitors from Chambers and Liberty Counties, our ABLE FFA members and student leaders showcased their dedication, hard work, and passion.

**Inaugural TVE Trailer Build-Off**

Barbers Hill FFA kicked off the exposition in grand style at the inaugural TVE Trailer Build-Off, hearing our chapter's name called twice on the podium:

Reserve Grand Champion: Konner Furlong, Trace Cunningham, Davis Holmes, and Carter Alderson

4th Place: Abel Ochoa, Chase Dittman, Mason Joines, and Clennon Kinney

**Be a Champion Livestock Show**

Our ABLE FFA members represented BHHS in the Inaugural "Be a Champion" Livestock Show, bringing home top honors and demonstrating true championship spirit with the support of fellow FFA members and volunteers.

**Goats, Sheep, & Lambs**

Barbers Hill exhibitors brought their A-game to the ring, securing top placing and showmanship honors:

Goat Show:

Braelyn Goudeau: Reserve Champion Overall & Reserve Champion Senior Showman

Reese Kattner: 3rd Overall & Champion Senior Showman

Katie McAdams: 12th Overall

Davis Holmes: 15th Overall

Madeline Mickelson: 18th Overall

Sloan Eason: 23rd Overall

Lamb Show:

Mady Hanks: 4th Overall & Reserve Champion Senior Showmanship

Peyton Early: 8th Overall

Braelyn Goudeau: Grand Champion Senior Showmanship

Junior Breeding Sheep:

Braelyn Goudeau: Class Winner

**Cattle & Commercial Heifers**

Our cattle exhibitors maintained a strong showing in both market and breeding divisions:

Market Steer Show:

Morgan McBride: 6th in Class & 19th Overall

Breeding Beef Show:

Peyton Early: Reserve Breed Champion

Emilee Ickes: 3rd in Class

Avery Hargis: 3rd in Class

Lynnlee Catchings: 6th in Class

Commercial Heifer Show & Scramble Awards:

Kendall Edmondson: 8th Overall American Commercial Heifer & Highest Ranking American Scramble Heifer

Lily Martinez: 14th Overall AOB Commercial Heifer

Lynnlee Catchings: Reserve Champion Scramble Report Book

**Swine, Rabbits, Broilers, & Horticulture**

Exhibitors across small animal, poultry, plant, and swine divisions earned top ribbons and auction qualifiers:

Swine Show:

Audrie Spence: 4th in Class *(Secured Premium Auction Spot)*

Horticulture:

Davis Holmes: Reserve Grand Champion Foliage Plant

Poultry (Broilers):

Abby Stephens: 10th Place *(Secured Premium Auction Spot)*

Maddy Stephens: Outstanding Exhibition

Market Rabbit Show:

Kynlee Havard: 16th Place *(Secured Premium Auction Spot)*

Breeding Rabbit Show:

Carlee Fipps: Best Mini Lop Buck

Kiera Griffen: 1st AOB Junior Buck, 1st AOB Senior Doe, & 3rd AOB Junior Doe

Kirsten Mosley: 2nd Senior Californian Doe & 3rd Senior Californian Buck

Kenley Hynum: 4th Senior Mini Lop Buck

Blake Wilson: 3rd Senior Mini Lop Doe

Kooper Garnica: 3rd Senior Mini Lop Buck

Maggie Guarnere: 5th Senior Mini Lop Buck

Emma Sledge: 5th Senior Mini Rex

Ruby Howell: 3rd AOB Senior Buck

Khalie Jackson: 12th AOB Senior Buck

**Support Our Students at the Upcoming Auctions!**

The hard work isn't over yet! Come out and support our hardworking Barbers Hill FFA exhibitors at the TVE Fairgrounds:

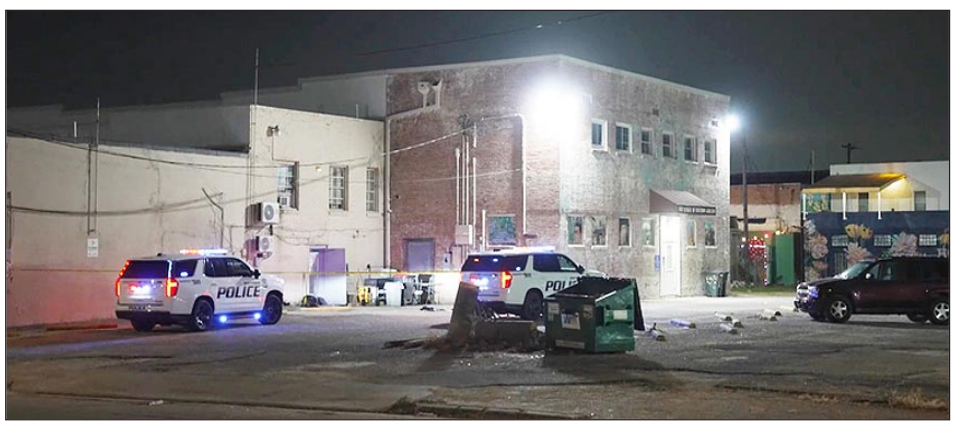
Youth Livestock Premium Auction: Friday, Oct 23

Livestock Freezer Sale: Saturday, Oct 24

Congratulations to all of our students, advisors, parents, and supporters.

# Suspect Sought After Early-Morning Shooting Outside Baytown Bar

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER



*West Texas Avenue shooting scene (Courtesy of OnScene TV Houston)*

BAYTOWN — Baytown police are searching for a gunman who shot a man outside a bar on West Texas Avenue early Monday morning, sending the victim to a hospital by air ambulance.

According to the Baytown Police Department, officers were called to the 2:20 a.m. report in the back parking lot of a bar in the Goose Creek area. Witnesses told police that an unidentified man arrived at the business and initially approached a female bartender. Later, the man was seen near the rear exit with another man who was trying to convince him to leave the premises.

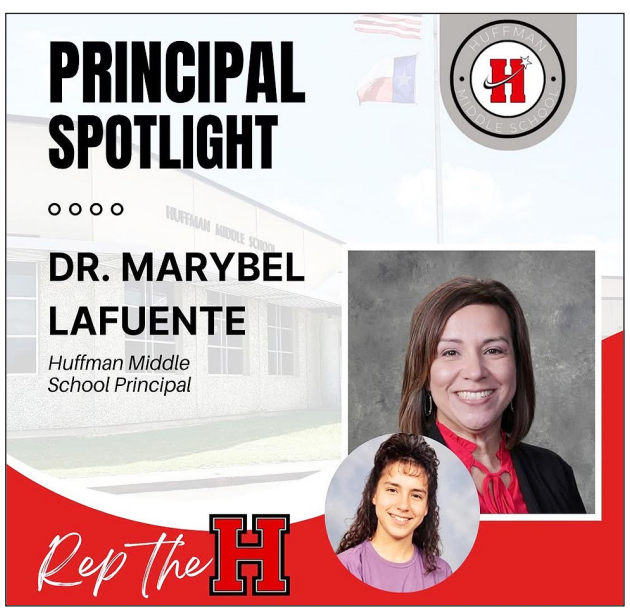
During that interaction, the suspect pulled out a pistol and shot the man, police said. The victim was taken to a nearby hospital by Life Flight. No other injuries were reported.

The suspect fled the scene and remains at large as detectives continue their investigation. Authorities have not released the victim's current medical condition or any information about the suspect.

The Baytown Police Department Public Information Office provided information for this report. Anyone with information about the shooting is urged to contact Baytown police.

# Huffman ISD Spotlights Dr. Marybel Lafuente as Principal Appreciation Series Wraps Up

By Gerardo Hernandez
STAFF WRITER




HUFFMAN — Huffman ISD is closing out Principal Appreciation Month by shining a spotlight on one of its own. Dr. Marybel Lafuente, principal of Huffman Middle School, is the final leader featured in the district's "REP THE H" Principal Spotlight Series.

A Huffman native, Dr. Lafuente's journey has come full circle. According to the district, she was inspired by teachers who made her feel valued, safe and capable of achieving great things — and she now works to provide that same encouragement and support to Huffman Middle School students.

Her leadership philosophy, the district said, is simple but powerful: serve others and always lead by example.

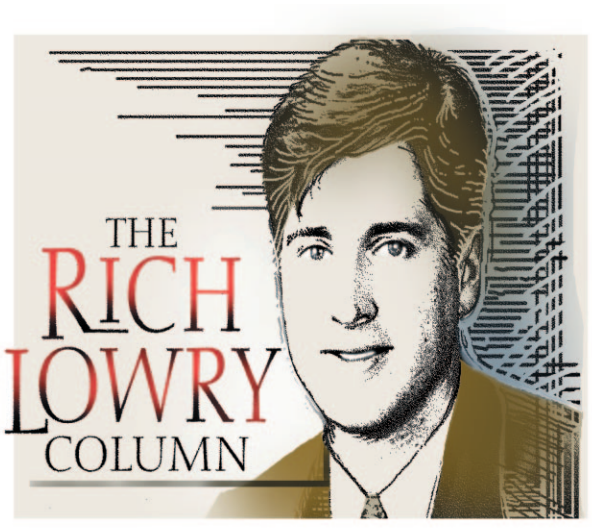
The spotlight also offered a glimpse of the person behind the principal. The district noted that Dr. Lafuente is an Astros fan, grew up watching "Beverly Hills 90210," loved "Beetlejuice" and collected every book in "The Baby-Sitters Club" series. The feature included a throwback photo of the Huffman leader.

Huffman ISD invited the community to show Dr. Lafuente support for her dedication, leadership and the many ways she represents the district.

The final spotlight also came with a thank-you to all four Huffman ISD principals for the heart, commitment and leadership they bring to their campuses every day.

"We're wrapping up our Principal Appreciation Month Spotlight Series with a leader who knows firsthand what it means to REP THE H," the district said in its announcement.

# ☆ OPINION PAGE ☆




## The Anti-French revolt in France

"All my life," Charles de Gaulle famously said, "I have had a certain idea of France." This, though, was presumably not what he had in mind. France has been wracked by riots targeting public buildings and symbols of the nation, as well as ordinary commercial concerns.

Of course, France has a long tradition of unrest on the streets. If someone isn't setting a car alight somewhere in the country in protest, you almost wonder what's gone wrong. In 1968, President de Gaulle himself briefly fled Paris for fear that student protesters were going to topple the government, before finding his nerve.

So, it's not unusual that things are getting wrecked and burned, but the disorder is portentous all the same. It started as demonstrations against underfunded schools and has morphed into a red-green campaign of mayhem ranging much more widely.

Palestinian flags and the slogan "Free Palestine" are ubiquitous. It's not clear what either of these things has to do with burning down the elegant, 19th-century town hall building in Limoges or looting a Louis Vuitton store. But the Palestinian banner has become the equivalent of the North Vietnamese flag in the 1970s — a symbol of resistance to the West, and in this case, fierce opposition to Zionism and so-called settler-colonialism.

The flag also speaks to the immigrant component of the riots. France has done a poor job of assimilating immigrants and their children, a large portion of whom are Muslims from North Africa, thanks to France's colonial history and, in particular, its incorporation of Algeria into France for a period of time (an insanely unrealistic project).

The problems that France has been creating for itself were foreseeable and, indeed, foreseen. As long ago as March 1959, de Gaulle is reported to have warned: "The Arabs are Arabs, the French are French. Do you think that the French can absorb 10 million Muslims who will tomorrow be 20 million and after tomorrow 40?"

One way to look at these riots is as Frantz Fanon's revenge. What the great mid-20th century theorist of anti-colonial resistance called "the wretched of the earth" are living in the downtrodden suburbs of Paris and, in effect, seeking to colonize the colonizers.

Make no mistake, though — white radicals, too, have taken a large hand in the disorder. Jean-Luc Melenchon, the leader of an ascendant left-wing party, has participated in the protests and condemned police for their supposedly brutish tactics. He celebrates the "creolization" of France and views immigrants and their children as part of a potential "bloc de rupture" that can revolutionize French politics and shift it radically to the left.

What's ultimately in play is French identity. The country has traditionally had a universalizing mission (whether advancing Christianity or evangelizing for enlightenment values, depending on the regime) joined to a deep pride in the French nation. The rioters, who are illiberal and unpatriotic, aren't much interested in either. Melenchon has said French identity cannot be "a tradition," but is "a creation in permanent evolution." And here, as has often happened in France's history, it is evolving in the streets.

The unrest also serves as a warning that should the French public reject this left-wing vision and turn to the nationalist Marine Le Pen in next year's election, the country will be made ungovernable. With the disorder spreading elsewhere, other Western European countries will also have to take note.

A key element of de Gaulle's "certain idea of France" was its inherent greatness. His beloved France, though, is already a second-rank power. Its debt-to-GDP ratio is 120%, while much of the public apparently believes it is living under intolerable austerity and there is no political will to pull back on spending. An overmatched President Emmanuel Macron, presiding over a restive country, represents an exhausted center that has done much to bring the nation to this point.

Whatever France's immediate future, greatness is not going to be part of the picture.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

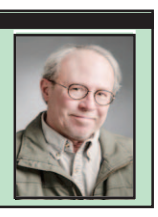
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## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

**By Gary Borders**



## Another software glitch in Texas voter rolls




A software error has caused another problem with Texas' voter registration logs, KUT radio's Texas Newsroom in Austin reported.

The glitch caused by "an extra address validation" affected Texans who updated their names and addresses on the state's government record portal, texas.gov, between Sept. 1 and last week, according to an email sent by the Texas Secretary of State's office.

Many of the updated records were still missing voters' new addresses, election officials said. As of Friday afternoon, those addresses are now showing up for Texas county election officials, according to an email from the Secretary of State's office.

Alicia Pierce, a spokesperson for the Secretary of State's office, said the agency sent 15,000 records back to counties. She said the problem has been resolved, and voters will still be able to cast a ballot.

This latest problem comes only days after Texas election officials said they cleared an earlier voter registration backlog. That issue was caused by an error prompted by a Texas Department of Public Safety software update. It impacted more than 500,000 voter registrations submitted since October 2025.

### NEW POLLS: DEMS LEAD NEARLY ALL STATEWIDE RACES

A new poll from the University of Texas at Austin shows Democrats with narrow leads in nearly all statewide races, the Houston Chronicle reported. However, polling in each statewide race is within the margin of error. Only Democratic Senate candidate James Talarico polled positively with 50% of the voters.

James Henson, director of the Texas Politics Project, said Democratic competitiveness is driven by a sizable gap in enthusiasm between Democratic and Republican voters — at least 10 percentage points.

"That's really significant," Henson said. "That is going to be what the last two weeks of this campaign are about — it's about Republican campaigns trying to drive up Democratic negatives and trying to stir what is right now a pretty uninspired Republican electorate in the state."

No Democrat has won a statewide race since 1994.

### STATE APPEALS ORDER REQUIRING AC IN PRISONS

Lawyers for the state have appealed a federal judge's order that all state prison cells be climate-controlled before 2030. The appeal was filed with the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, the Texas Standard reported. The state also asked U.S. District Judge Robert Pitman to suspend his order, arguing it could disrupt critical operations in the prison system while the appeal continues.

"Throwing chaos and confusion into TDCJ's ongoing plans to install complete air-conditioning, before the Fifth Circuit has a chance to rule, needlessly wastes finite resources, and frustrates TDCJ's efforts to acquire funding to address operational and life safety measures to protect its population while moving...expediently to install air conditioning," the filing said.

In September Pitman issued his ruling in a case filed by prison rights advocacy groups. The groups argued that forcing inmates to endure triple-digit temperatures inside prison cells was unconstitutional. Just more than a third of the state's prisons are climate-controlled, while 90,000 incarcerated Texans don't have air conditioning.

The legal fight began with a 2023 complaint filed by Bernie Tiede, a high-profile inmate featured in the film "Bernie."

### COMPTROLLER HUFFINES PLANS $3M OFFICE RENOVATION

Republican Controller Don Huffines plans to use $3 million in funds from a state agency that manages and invests state funds to renovate his offices, according to The Dallas Morning News. Records obtained by the paper show that Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Co. would pay for the renovation of the comptroller's executive suite.

Huffines is the GOP nominee for comptroller and was appointed by Abbott to serve out an unexpired term. He faces state Sen. Sarah Eckhardt, D-Austin, in November. She called the proposed use of trust company funds "highly inappropriate."

"The comptroller is supposed to keep those funds segregated," she said. "You can't raid it for operational expenses in the comptroller's office."

Since being appointed, Huffines has vowed to cut government spending; 41 comptroller employees were fired in recent weeks.

### HOME, AUTO INSURANCE RATES TRENDING DOWN

Both homeowner and auto insurance companies have filed proposed premium rate decreases since July, according to the Texas Department of Insurance. The agency said the proposed decreases affect about 700,000 Texas policyholders. Homeowner rate changes have averaged a 4.3% decline over the past 90 days, according to TDI.

"Lower rate filings are an encouraging sign for Texas consumers, and we're pleased to see some relief beginning to reach the market," said Insurance Commissioner Amanda Crawford. "As rates moderate, Texans should take advantage of the competitive market, shop around, and make sure they're getting the best value for their coverage."

Nearly 160 companies sell auto and homeowners insurance in Texas.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com

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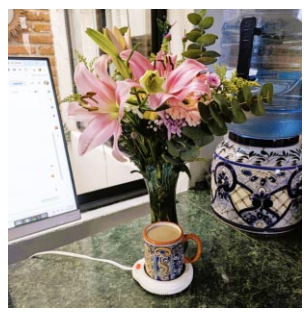
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## THE POSTSCRIPT

**By Carrie Classon**

## Every Cup



I have a tradition.

Like most traditions, it didn't start out as a tradition. I bought a beautiful coffee cup to sit on the little coffee heater on my desk while I wrote in San Miguel. I think having a beautiful coffee cup is as important as having fresh flowers on my desk while I'm writing. If I'm going to sit in one place for hours at a time, I need nice things to look at while I'm doing it.

If anyone asked me for advice on how to write a book, I wouldn't bother to talk to them about grammar or plot. I'd tell them they need a good place to write, because it's going to take a very long time. Sitting hunched up at the kitchen table where you have to pack up your stuff every time a meal is served is no good. It's important to have a place to do one's work—especially if the work you're doing doesn't really look like work much of the time. It's important to have fresh flowers and a beautiful coffee cup filled with coffee that is kept at precisely the right temperature, even if it is neglected for 15 minutes at a time.

So that is what I do. I find a nice cup, and I sit with it for several hours, seven days a week

But after I've used that cup for almost two months and it's time to go back to the U.S., I find I cannot bear to part with it. So I bring the cup home and I use it there. Then it comes time to return to Mexico, and of course I don't travel with a ceramic coffee cup. So when I get back to our apartment, I buy a lovely new cup. And again, I bond with it. And again, I bring it home.

You probably now have an idea of how my cupboard has filled with coffee cups.

This is a situation that bothers my husband, Peter. Peter is very conscious of clutter. In my defense, I am staunchly anti-clutter as well—I just don't regard my collection of beautiful coffee cups as clutter. (Because, by now, it is a collection.) I also don't see a way out of my conundrum.

"We could get rid of our other cups," I suggested.

"I like our other cups," Peter said. "They are a nice size for company."

"We could use my Mexican cups when company comes."

Peter did not answer. I could tell he liked the idea of serving coffee at Christmas and on other occasions in the small, more practical matching cups we keep in an upper cupboard. They are nice cups, I admit. I just like my Mexico cups more. Those little matching cups never once helped me write a book.

So we are at an impasse. Yesterday, I bought my cup for this trip, and like every previous cup, I am convinced it is the best one ever. This cup has an orange handle and vertical columns that look like stained glass running up the sides. I know it is going to help me as I write. I know I will never want to part with it. And so, I worry.

I once saw a program on hoarding, where a psychologist was trying to help someone whose house was filled to overflowing. The psychologist pointed to a cupboard filled with dishes and more dishes piled on the counter.

"You just see coffee cups," she explained. "The hoarder sees individual experiences attached to every cup."

And that got me worried.

Till next time,

Carrie

## SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 9

# Surging Texans get week off to set up second-half run: Slumping Cowboys need home win against Cardinals




After losing their first four games of the season, the Houston Texans won two straight (they hosted the beatable New York Giants last Sunday) to get in the AFC playoff hunt.

This week, DeMeco Ryan's team gets a much-needed week off to rest and heal up as they look to finish strong in the second half of the season.

While the Texans appear to be on the rise, the Dallas Cowboys continue to struggle. Two weeks ago, the vaunted Dallas offense was held to 13 points by an average Green Bay defense en route to a 23-13 loss. This week, Dallas hosts the Arizona Cardinals, who two weeks ago upset the Los Angeles Rams in LA's Sofi Stadium. The Cowboys aren't dead in the water yet, thanks to the fact that they play in a terrible division. The Giants are the only team with a winning record, while the Eagles went to 2-4 with a home loss to Carolina two weeks ago and also have lost starting QB Jalen Hurts for the season after he was diagnosed with blood clots that have moved to his lungs. Star running back Saquon Barkley is also hobbled as he tries to come back from a hamstring injury he sustained in Week 3. If the Cowboys are going to get back in the playoff hunt, they need to start stringing some wins together.

Other interesting games in Week 8 features Carolina at Green Bay on Thursday Night Football. Baltimore visits Buffalo on Sunday, while there's a big one in the AFC North as the Browns visit the Steelers. There's also a big one in the AFC West as Kansas City visits an inconsistent Denver team and Week 8 concludes with Monday Night Football with the Bears visiting the Seahawks.

The college schedule is pretty blah this weekend and nothing like it was two weeks ago when five of the top seven teams lost, including No. 1-ranked Georgia and No. 2-ranked Notre Dame, along with No. 7 Texas, which lost at home to an unranked Florida team that started a true freshman QB.

This week, there's a good one in the Big 12 as No. 25 Arizona visits No. 8-ranked Texas Tech. Speaking of Georgia, the No. 5 Bulldogs take on No. 20 Florida in Atlanta. This game used to be played in Jacksonville and was known as the world's Biggest Cocktail Party, but this year's addition is being played at the Mercedes Benz Dome in Atlanta. There's a good one in the Big 10 as No. 3-ranked Ohio State visits LA to take on No. 16-ranked USC.

The District 14-6A season is winding down and has just two weeks left. It appears Westfield will earn the first seed, but AISD schools Nimitz (3-1), Davis (3-1) and MacArthur (2-2) are still in the playoff hunt. This week, Davis hosts Spring on Thursday night at 7 at Thorne Stadium, while Nimitz and MacArthur meet in a key game for both teams on Friday at 7 in Thorne Stadium. On Saturday at 2 p.m., Eisenhower will take on Aldine at Thorne Stadium.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, unfortunately we need to review last week's record. Another subpar week (6-6) brought the season record to a still respectable 55-28 record (66%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

**NCAA**

**Arizona at Texas Tech** - No. 25 Arizona visits No. 8 Texas Tech in a big Big 12 game for both teams. The Wildcats entered the Top 25 two weeks ago after their 52-31 pasting of West Virginia. 'Zona has one of the league's top QBs in Noah Fifita (1,739 yards, 16 TDs), but he will be facing a Tech defense that is starting to find itself. Fifita will need help from running back Kedrick Reescano (262 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Isaiah Mizell (19 receptions, 359 yards, 4 TDs). Tech will look for another solid game from QB Will Hammond (1,334 yards, 6 TDs), running back J'Koby Williams (538 yards, 5 TDs) and wideouts Kenny Johnson (24 receptions, 418 yards, 1 TD) and Coy Eakin (19 receptions, 218 yards, 3 TDs). Look for the Tech defense to be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Texas Tech 34, Arizona 20

**Ohio State at USC** - A big one in the Big 10 as No. 3 Ohio State visits No. 16 USC. Ryan Day's Buckeyes have proven they can win in tough places as evidenced by their win at No. 14 Iowa and at then No. 5 Indiana. They have another road test this week when they face the Trojans. The OSU offense is humming behind QB Julian Sayin (2,007 yards, 19 TDs), running back Bo Jackson (516 yards, 4 TDs) and Ja'Kobi Jackson (354 yards, 6 TDs) and star wide receiver Jeremiah Smith (52 receptions, 984 yards, 12 TDs). The Trojans have some offensive weapons as well with QB Jayden Maiava (2,045 yards, 18 TDs), running back King Miller (595 yards, 4 TDs) and wideouts Kayden Dixon-Wyatt (27 receptions, 400 yards, 4 TDs) and Trent Mosley (22 receptions, 366 yards, 4 TDs). Look for the Buckeyes defense to be the difference maker in this one as OSU sets its sights on the Big 10 title game. My pick, Ohio State 26, USC 20

**Georgia vs. Florida** - These two long-time rivals will meet at the Mercedes Benz Dome in Atlanta. This game is usually played in Jacksonville, but EverBank Stadium is undoing a massive reconstruction project, so the game was moved to Atlanta. Two weeks ago, the 'Dawgs lost at home on a last-second field goal to unranked Auburn, while Florida beat then No. 7 Texas in Austin behind freshman QB Tramell J Jones (407 yards, 7 TDs). Look for Georgia to be in a nasty mood come Saturday. Look for QB Gunner Stockton (1,570 passing yards, 16 TDs/160 rushing yards, 1 TD), running back Dwight Phillips Jr. (348 yards, 2 TDs) and wideouts Craig Dandridge (17 receptions, 310 yards, 1 TD) and Talyn Taylor (19 receptions, 283 yards, 3 TDs). Florida hopes to have starting QB Aaron Philo (1,341 passing yards, 9 TDs/104 rushing yards, 3 TDs) back for this one. The Gators will need a big day from running back Jadan Baugh (763 yards, 13 TDs) and wideout Dallas Wilson (29 receptions, 403 yards, 3 TDs). Look for the Georgia defense to be too much for the Gators come Saturday. My pick, Georgia 31, Florida 18

**NFL**

**Carolina at Green Bay** - Week 8 begins with a good one for the Thursday Night Football crew as the Carolina Panthers visit the Green Bay Packers. Carolina won four of its first six games behind one of the league's best young QBs in Bryce Young (1,549 yards, 11 TDs). The Panthers also have a good young wideout in Tetairoa McMillan (32 receptions, 471 yards, 2 TDs) and a dependable back in Chubba Hubbard (426 yards, 4 TDs). The Packers also have a good young QB in Jordan Love (1,684 yards, 11 TDs) who may be having his best year yet. He's got two quality wide receivers to throw to in Christian Watkins (29 receptions, 538 yards, 6 TDs) and Matthew Golden (30 receptions, 501 yards, 3 TDs). The GB offense should get a boost with the return of starting running back Josh Jacobs, who was suspended for the first six games by the NFL for violating the league's domestic violence policy. The Packers could also get another boost if star edge rusher Micah Parsons returns after recovering from an ACL injury. My pick, Green Bay 31, Carolina 23

**Arizona at Dallas** - If the Cowboys are going to get back in the NFC East race, they must start putting some wins together and it had better start against the lowly Cardinals. For some reason, the Dallas offense, which started the season red hot, has floundered in its last two games. QB Dak Prescott (1,639 yards, 10 TDs) could use a boost from the running game, so look for Javonte Williams (317 yards, 8 total TDs) to get more touches starting this week. If Dallas can run the ball, that should open up the passing game for Prescott to make plays downfield to CeeDee Lamb (48 receptions, 577 yards, 4 TDs) and George Pickens (33 receptions, 428 yards, 1 TD). Cardinals QB Jacoby Brissett (1,328 yards, 9 TDs/6 interceptions) will look to attack a suspect Dallas defense with strikes to tight end Trey McBride (49 receptions, 361 yards, 3 TDs). Look for Jerry Jones' team to play much better this week because they know there is little room for error from here on out. My pick, Dallas 33, Arizona 23

**Baltimore at Buffalo** - A good one pits the Ravens against the Bills in Buffalo on Sunday. The Bills had an extra week to prepare for this one and had a chance to rest up. QB Josh Allen (1,504 passing yards, 9 TDs/240 rushing yards, 8 TDs) and he is getting help from running back James Cook (627 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receiver Khalil Shakir (22 receptions, 290 yards, 1 TD). Baltimore is hoping to get star QB Lamar Jackson (967 passing yards, 6 TDs/144 rushing yards, 1 TD) back for this one after he missed two games with an ankle injury. If Jackson is unable to go again, look for the Ravens to give a suspect Buffalo defense a steady dose of running back Derrick Henry (534 yards, 7 TDs). My pick, Buffalo 31, Baltimore 27

**Cleveland at Pittsburgh** - A big one in the AFC North pits two bitter rivals as the Browns visit the Steelers. Many thought Pittsburgh and Baltimore would battle for the division title and few saw the Browns being in the mix. But after six games, Cleveland had a 4-2 record, just like the Ravens and Steelers. The Browns are getting it done with QB Deshaun Watson (1,174 yards, 7 TDs) and wide receiver Denzel Boston (17 receptions, 345 yards, 3 TDs). The Steelers have been getting another solid season from Aaron Rodgers (1,487 yards, 12 TDs), running back Jaylen Warren (460 yards, 1 TD) and wideout DK Metcalf (30 receptions, 318 yards, 1 TD). In Week 4, the Browns beat the Steelers on a last second field goal. Look for Pittsburgh to get pay back this time around. My pick, Pittsburgh 23, Cleveland 20

**Kansas City at Denver** - The Chiefs and Broncos meet up in a key AFC West contest on Sunday in Denver. KC won its first five games thanks to running back Kenneth Walker III (665 yards, 8 TDs). Walker's production has taken a lot of pressure off of star QB Patrick Mahomes (1,309 yards, 9 TDs). Look for Mahomes to make plays to tight end Travis Kelce (20 receptions, 299 yards, 2 TDs) early and often. Denver QB Bo Nix (1,049 yards, 6 TDs/3 interceptions) has struggled thus far, maybe because the Broncos can't run the ball. Nix needs to get wide receiver Jaylen Waddle going, but that might be tough to do against a solid KC secondary. My pick, Kansas City 26, Denver 23

**Chicago at Seattle** - Week 8 concludes on Monday Night Football when Chicago visits Seattle. Two weeks ago, the Bears offense got a huge boost when starting QB Caleb Williams (712 yards, 3 TDs in 3 games) returned after missing three games with a hamstring injury. Chicago has a solid runner in D'Andre Swift (398 yards, 6 TDs) and two dependable wideouts in Luther Burden III (31 receptions, 361 yards, 1 TD) and Rome Odunze (20 receptions, 312 yards). The Seahawks know they need to get things in gear, or SF will run away with the NFC West. Seattle needs more consistent play from QB Sam Darnold (1,033 yards, 7 TDs/7 interceptions). Look for Darnold to attack a suspect Chicago secondary as he goes to star wide receiver Jaxon Smith-Njigba (49 receptions, 717 yards, 7 TDs) early and often. My pick, Seattle 26, Chicago 18

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## STAR-COURIER FOOTBALL SCORES/SCHEDULES

### LAST WEEK'S SCORES

Barbers Hill 73, Clear Lake 30
Baytown Lee 44, Santa Fe 35
Goose Creek Memorial 28, Lufkin 21
Humble Summer Creek 30, Crosby 24 (OT)
Port Arthur Memorial 16, Baytown Sterling 0
Vidor 70, Huffman Hargrave 42




### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCT. 30
Barbers Hill vs. Deer Park, 7 p.m., Eagle Stadium
Baytown Lee vs. Port Neches-Groves, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium
Baytown Sterling, BYE WEEK
Crosby vs. Atascocita, 7 p.m., Cougar Stadium
Goose Creek Memorial at Galveston Ball, 7 p.m., Courville Stadium
Huffman Hargrave, BYE WEEK

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# Crosby ISD Bond Election: Information for Voters,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

taxable value of $115,728 after applicable homestead exemptions. Actual tax impacts will vary depending on a property's taxable value, exemptions, and individual circumstances. Qualifying homeowners, age 65+ or with disabilities, will see no tax impact provided they do not make significant improvements to their homesteads.

Voter-approved bond funds may be used for construction, facility improvements, and infrastructure projects that support district schools and facilities. By law, these funds cannot be used for day-to-day operating expenses such as salaries, supplies, or utilities.

Like school districts across Texas, Crosby ISD uses the Interest and Sinking (I&S) tax rate to repay voter-approved bonds over time. The I&S tax rate supports repayment of principal and interest on eligible district debt.

Voting Information

**Early Voting: Now – October 30, 2026**

Monday through Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Election Day: Tuesday, November 3, 2026**

The following locations have been identified for the Crosby-Barrett area:

Crosby Community Center

Riley Chambers Community Center

Crosby Kindergarten Center

Newport Elementary School

Charles R. Drew Elementary School

Stonebridge at Newport, Stonebridge Room

Harris County voters may vote at any designated countywide polling locations during early voting and on Election Day. Additional information about the propositions and voting procedures is available through the Crosby ISD Bond website and the Harris County Elections website.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the bond election and its potential impact on our schools and community. We encourage all eligible voters to review the information available and participate in the election process.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paula PattersonSuperintendent of SchoolsCrosby ISD







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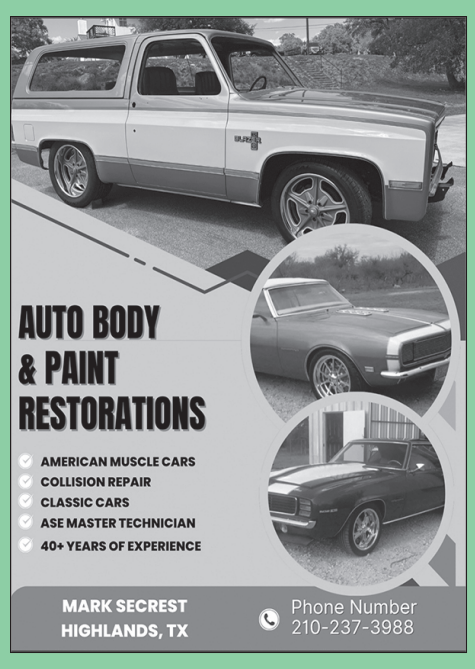
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FOR RENT






Stephen Graham, left, and Liev Schreiber star in "Nocturne."

## "Nocturne"

**"Nocturne" (TV-MA)** — Liev Schreiber ("Splinter Cell: Deathwatch") leads this six-episode crime-drama series premiering on Oct. 30. The series follows homicide detective Jonah Lynn (Schreiber), who gets pulled back into one of his previous cases after more victims start to go missing. At a loss as to how there could be more victims when the original perpetrator is behind bars, Jonah's FBI agent daughter, Saga (Zazie Beetz), volunteers to go undercover and get closer to the serial killer. But as determined as Saga and Jonah are, serial killer Jurek Walter (Stephen Graham) is a master manipulator and knows how to unearth the buried emotions inside those he has affected. (Apple TV)

In Case You Missed It

**"Carrie" (TV-MA)** — The 1974 novel "Carrie" by Stephen King has seen a few adaptations, including Brian De Palma's 1976 film, the 2013 version starring Chloe Grace Moretz, and now a 2026 eight-episode miniseries! Summer H. Howell ("Normal"), who began working in film and TV as a child actress, takes on the iconic role of the telekinetic Carrie White. Howell was undoubtedly in great hands under the direction of Mike Flanagan, who's known as the showrunner for horror series like "The Haunting of Hill House" and "The Fall of the House of Usher." Other notable names in the cast include Matthew Lillard ("Behemoth!") and Samantha Sloyan ("The Exorcist: Martyrs"). Stream it now before spooky season comes to a close! (Amazon Prime Video)

**"East of Eden" (TV-MA)** — Florence Pugh ("Dune: Part Three") is no stranger to period pieces, having starred as the well-mannered Amy March in Greta Gerwig's "Little Women" (2019). So, she's an excellent choice to portray Cathy Ames in this seven-episode TV adaptation of John Steinbeck's 1952 novel. Taking place in the late 1800s through World War I, the series tells a story that explores similar themes to the story of Cain and Abel in the Book of Genesis. It particularly focuses on the marriage between Cathy and her husband, Adam, her subsequently leaving her twin sons and husband, and the emotional turmoil it left behind to each of them. Mike Faist ("Challengers") and Christopher Abbott ("You Can See Everything") co-star alongside Pugh. The entire series is out now to stream. (Netflix)

**"War" (TV-MA)** — It's clearly a week for television, and this week's final pick is a sleek legal-drama series led by Dominic West ("The Crown") and Sienna Miller ("Horizon: An America Saga"). Since it's deemed an anthology series, the main characters will change as the seasons progress. This first season, which has already premiered its first four episodes, focuses on a divorce case between a tech mogul named Morgan (West) and an international actress named Carla (Miller). Each has the backing of a top London law firm, and although their intentions are to keep the proceedings as civilized as possible, war is sure to erupt between them and their lawyers once the case starts leaning too far in either direction. New episodes premiere every Thursday. (HBO Max)

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# HOLLYWOOD

## by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Steve McQueen, who passed away in 1980 at 50, is making a major comeback ... of sorts! Two of his best films are being remade. "The Thomas Crown Affair" (1968) cost $4.3 million and grossed $14 million, with Faye Dunaway co-starring. The remake is due on March 5 and stars Michael B. Jordan, Kenneth Branagh, Adria Arjona and Lily Gladstone. Netflix is also developing a remake of "The Getaway" (1972), which originally starred Ali MacGraw alongside McQueen and grossed $36.7 million against its $3.3 million cost.

***

In 1968, at a star-studded celebrity screening, I was assaulted and battered by Elliott Gould as four of us invited photographers were shooting him with his wife, Barbra Streisand, while they ran out of the Directors Guild on Sunset Boulevard. After being treated at UCLA Medical Center for a dislocated shoulder and bruises, I sued him. Three years later, a judge in a Los Angeles Court found him guilty of two counts of battery ... but this is another story for another time.

***

Another trip down memory lane is the upcoming film "Playmates," starring Bill Pullman as Hugh Hefner and Jessica Biel and Lily-Rose Depp as Playboy Playmates at Hefner's mansion. I was invited to Hefner's mansion six times, and I'll never forget the long three-block driveway to the entrance.

I was greeted by Hefner and several Playmates, and at night, I'd end up in the dimly lit "grotto" pool, where I once witnessed the late Tom Smothers (of the Smothers Brothers) having his way with one of Hefner's bunnies! It didn't seem to bother them that I was there, and I tried not to watch their lovemaking. (Yeah, sure!) Talk about a gold-medal moment!

***

Hats off to Marion Ross, who was known as Marion Cunningham on "Happy Days" (1974-1984). Ross turned 97 on Oct. 25. She was the star of about 50 films and had dozens of TV guest appearances. Her character, Emily, was wed to Captain Stubing (Gavin MacLEOd) on the last episode of "The Love Boat" in 1986. (I shot MacLEOd's real wedding to his second wife, Patti Kendig, in 1974.) Ross' last film was "Senior Entourage" (2021) before retiring at 92.

***

Really, Tom Cruise, have you lost your mind? At 64, you look as handsome as the biggest movie star on the planet should! How could you think anyone would like seeing you as an unattractive old man? You've proven that you're a great actor, but hiding your good looks and sex appeal under a bush was a miscalculation! "Digger" has taken in $42 million so far, but it cost $180 million.

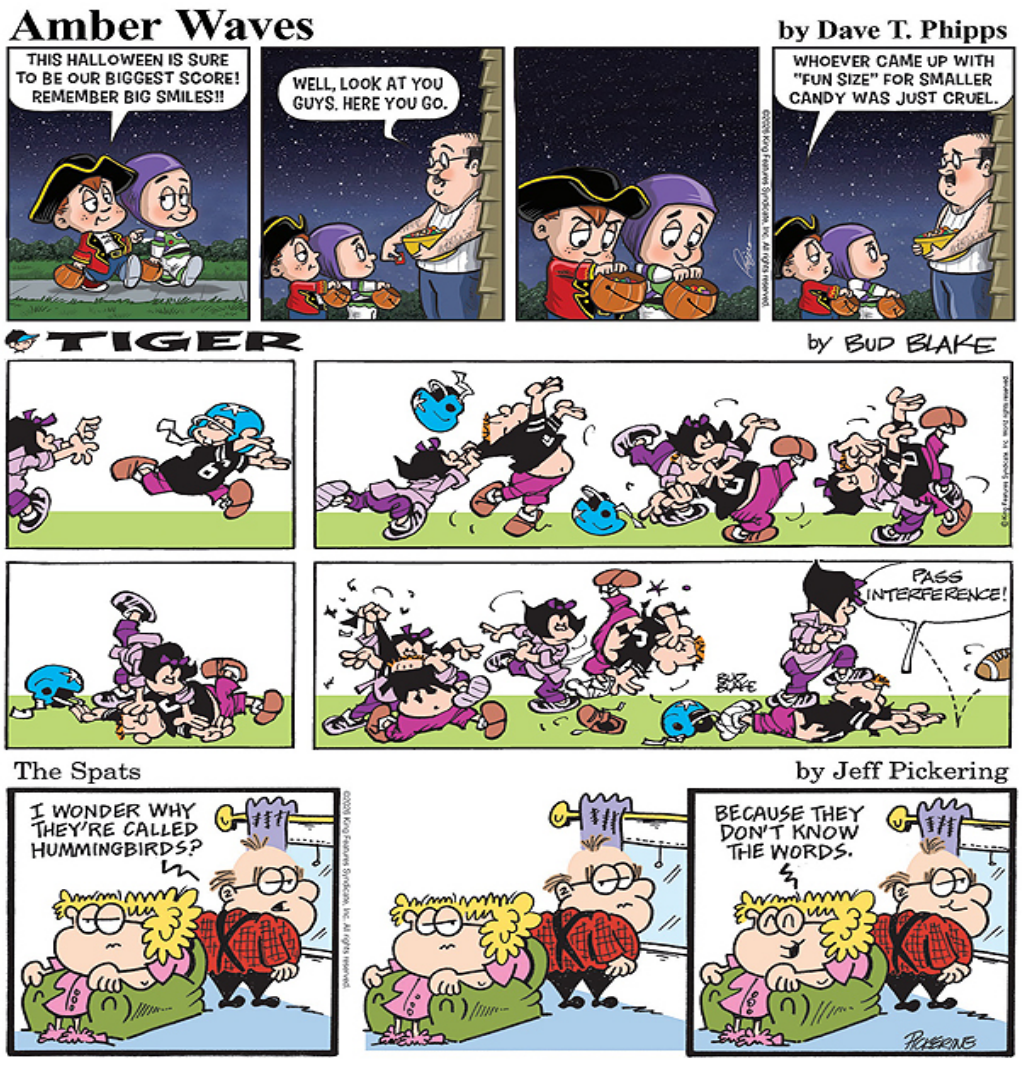
You'd think two-time Oscar-winning director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu would've known that hiding your sex appeal under a bushel was igniting a bomb!

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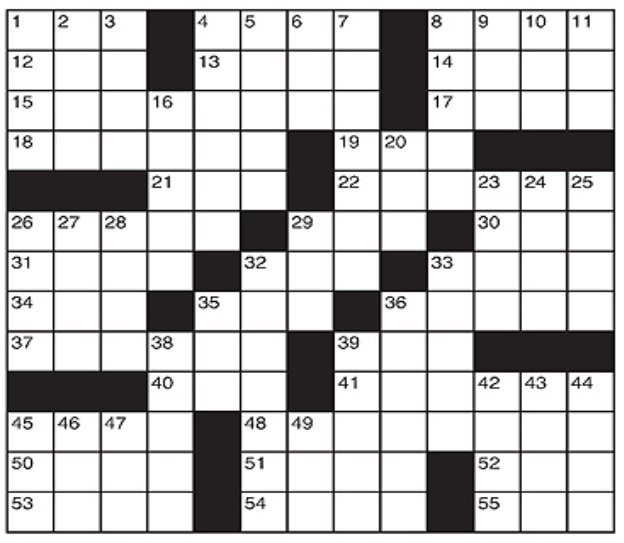
Bill Pullman (Set to star as Hugh Hefner in "Playmates")

# ENTERTAINMENT




October 26, 2026 Posting Date

## King Crossword



**ACROSS**

1 Personal
4 Poi base
8 Fraud
12 Romance
13 — incline (tilted)
14 Unruly groups
15 Message from an admirer
17 Border on
18 On an angle
19 Vinyl records
21 Before
22 "Darn it!"
26 Scrabble pieces
29 Movie format
30 "Little piggie"
31 Rd. crossers
32 Grant's foe
33 1982 sci-fi film
34 "The Newsroom" actor Patel
35 Farm grazer
36 Resided
37 "I, Robot" author
39 Lanka lead-in
40 Storm center
41 Sculpted trunks
45 Sagan or Sandburg
48 Romantic Ella Fitzgerald song
50 Squad
51 — Stanley Gardner
52 PC linking system
53 Short cuts
54 Snitched
55 Vintage

**DOWN**

1 They give a hoot
2 Scarf material
3 De — (from the start)
4 Printer refills
5 Battery part
6 Squealer
7 Bob Marley hit song
8 Big hit
9 Corn core
10 — Dhabi
11 Rockies hrs.
16 Tools for duels
20 Third degree?
23 To be, in Tours
24 "Neato!"
25 Superman's alias
26 "There!"
27 Currier's partner
28 Jeans maker Strauss
29 Morning moisture
32 Mini-shutout at Wimbledon
33 Spin
35 Demure
36 Buzzed
38 Thaws
39 Unmoving
42 Aviator's milestone
43 Track shape
44 Email command
45 Young lion
46 Year in Spain
47 Chest bone
49 Granada gold

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## Weekly SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 4 | | | | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| | | 2 | 1 | | 9 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 7 | 1 | | 5 | | 8 | 9 | | |
| | 4 | | 9 | | | | 7 | 1 |
| 6 | | | 7 | | 1 | 4 | | |
| 3 | 7 | | 8 | | 4 | 2 | 9 | |
| | | | 3 | 9 | | | 4 | |
| | | 3 | | 8 | | 7 | | |
| 4 | | 7 | | | | | | 3 |

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

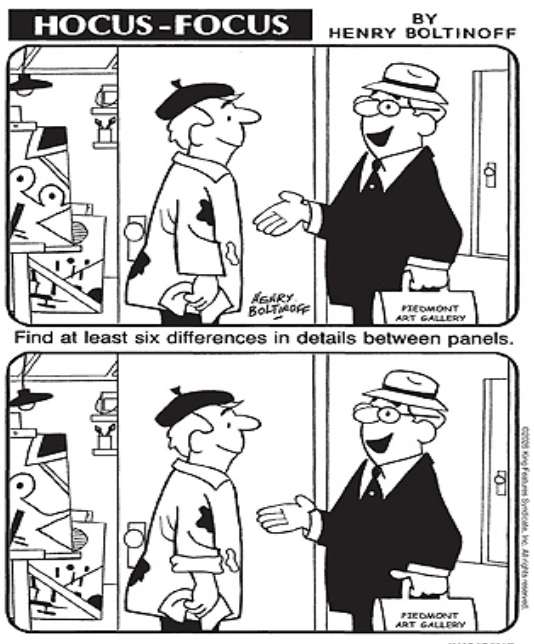
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆**

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

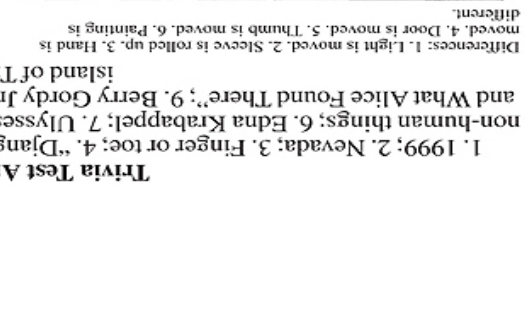
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF




Find at least six differences in details between panels.




Differences: 1. Light is moved. 2. Sleeve is rolled up. 3. Hand is moved. 4. Door is moved. 5. Thumb is moved. 6. Painting is different.

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**Weekly SUDOKU — Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| 9 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 1 |
| 6 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| 5 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 6 |
| 1 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 7 |
| 7 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 8 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 |

**King Crossword — Answers**

**Solution time: 26 mins.**



## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. HISTORY: In which year was the euro currency introduced?
2. U.S. STATES: Which state is the driest in the nation?
3. ANATOMY: A phalange refers to what in the human body?
4. MOVIES: Which 2012 movie has the tagline "The D is silent"?
5. LANGUAGE: What does it mean to anthropomorphize?
6. TELEVISION: What's the name of Bart's teacher on "The Simpsons"?
7. MONEY: Which president is pictured on the $50 U.S. bill?
8. LITERATURE: The characters Tweedledee and Tweedledum appear in which children's novel?
9. MUSIC: Who was the founder of Motown Records?
10. GEOGRAPHY: Where is East Timor located?

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**Trivia Test Answers**

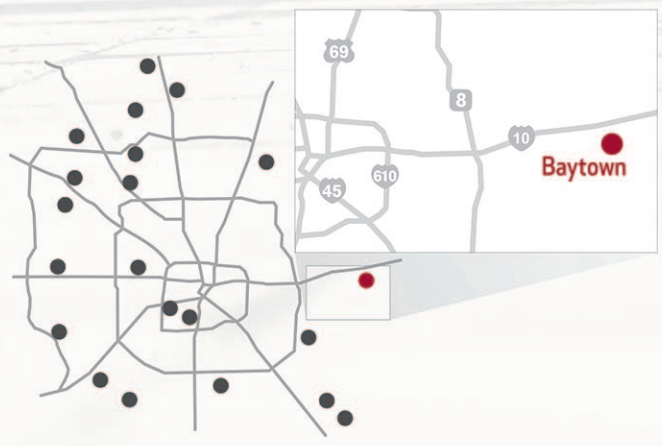
1. 1999; 2. Nevada; 3. Finger or toe; 4. "Django Unchained"; 5. To give human traits to non-human things; 6. Edna Krabappel; 7. Ulysses S. Grant; 8. "Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There"; 9. Berry Gordy Jr.; 10. Southeast Asia, occupying half of the island of Timor

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